

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 526

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Officer Brandon Thornton upon being named the Bartlett Police Department's Officer of the Year.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal concerns to ensure the public safety and welfare, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty in service of public safety; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued the time-honored tradition of service in law enforcement, dedicating their time and efforts to aiding those in emergency situations and apprehending those who have broken the law; and

WHEREAS, Officer Brandon Thornton is one such courageous public servant, who was recently named the Bartlett Police Department's Officer of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thornton's dedication to the job has proven invaluable in numerous ongoing investigations, and he was recently named the Bartlett Police Department's Employee of the Month for his successful response and investigation into a recent burglary. Officer Thornton's initial investigation, follow-up, and teamwork with detectives helped solve not only this burglary but three others in the neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thornton began his nine-year career with the Bartlett Police Department on December 15, 2006, having served previously in the Uniform Patrol Division until June 2015. During his time in Uniform Patrol, Officer Thornton served as a field Training Officer and was also a member of the Honor Guard and SWAT; and

WHEREAS, he has also been involved in an ongoing investigation with the FBI Safe Streets Task Force concerning gang activity, and the investigation has yielded 105 arrests,

several indictments, twenty-four expected RICO indictments scheduled for March 2016, four guilty pleas, and numerous narcotics and firearm seizures; and

WHEREAS, the RICO indictment, a national effort coordinated between FBI offices located in several cities across the country, is the first attempted in the Western District of Tennessee in more than a decade; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thornton has not only served our community but has also served our nation as a member of the United States Marine Corps, having been deployed to Iraq on September 1, 2007, until May 28, 2008; and

WHEREAS, an exemplar of family values, Brandon Thornton is married to Bethany Thornton and together they have one child, Brayden; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thornton has contributed greatly to the safety of the citizens of Bartlett, serving with tremendous courage, fortitude, and professionalism and making a significant impact for the betterment of his community; and

WHEREAS, Officer Thornton epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean, and his professionalism and dedication to the City of Bartlett are evident to all who know him; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Officer Brandon Thornton for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Officer Brandon Thornton upon being named the Bartlett Police Department's Officer of the Year, thank him for his meritorious service to the citizens of Bartlett and the State of Tennessee, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.